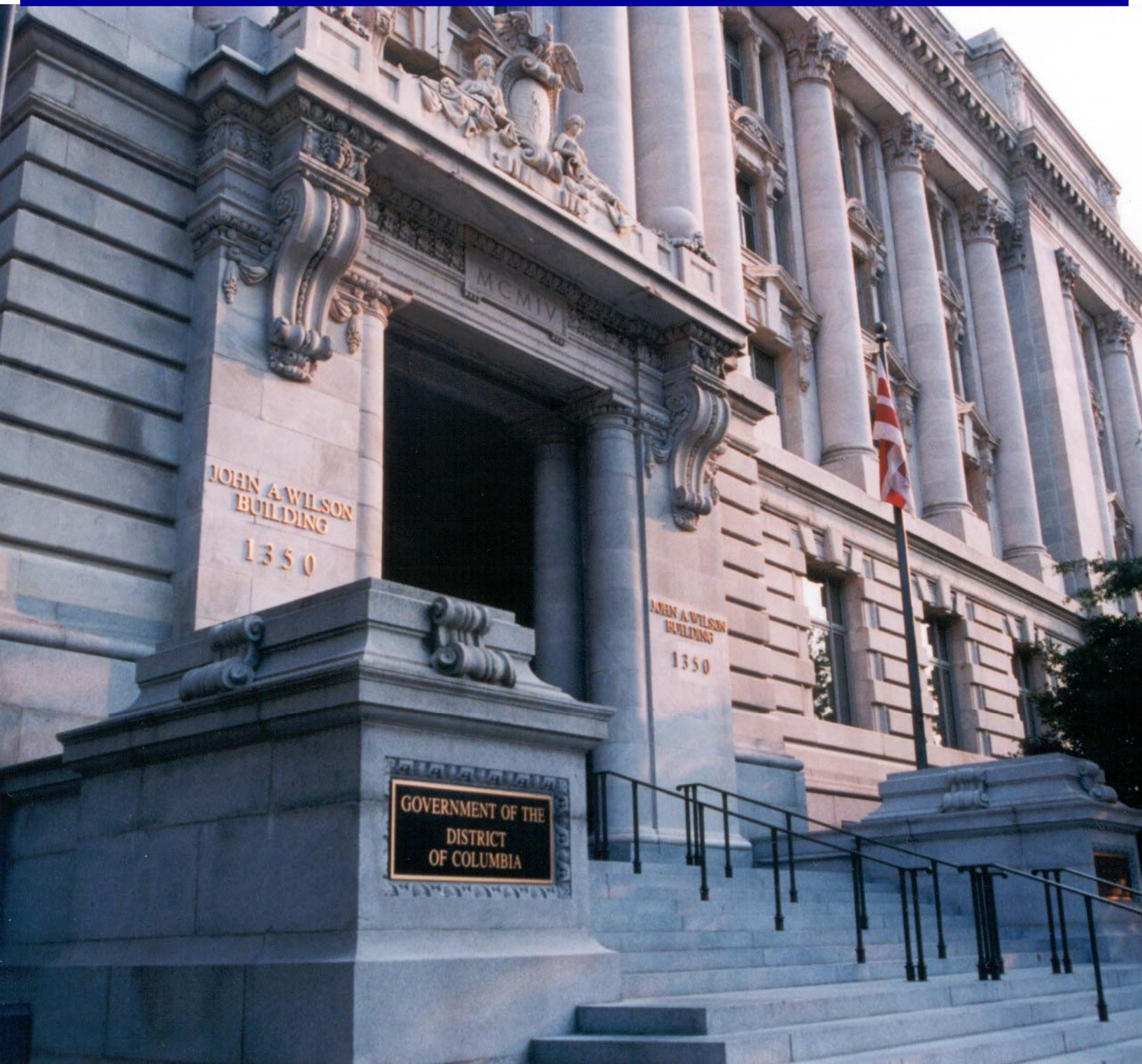# OFFICE OF PARTNERSHIPS AND GRANTS DEVELOPMENT

Executive Office of the Mayor
Anthony A. Williams, Mayor

Fiscal Year 2005 Annual Report

Responsive Government: Promoting Partnerships for a Better District of Columbia

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.   Introduction

This report summarizes the key activities and initiatives of the Executive Office of the Mayor's Office of Partnerships and Grants Development (OPGD) in Fiscal Year 2005.

OPGD supports the District's Citywide Strategic Plan (CWSP) by facilitating multi-sector partnerships and maximizing competitive grant revenue.

A.   Mission Statement and Goals

OPGD's mission statement is:

To advance the District of Columbia's strategic plan and contribute to the improvement of quality of life for residents of our nation's capital by establishing multi-sector partnerships, and pursuing financial support and technical assistance from public and private sources.

OPGD assists District government agencies in their pursuit of relevant funding opportunities, including the preparation of quality grant applications that lead to improved services for District residents. OPGD offers services and assistance to increase the capacity of District agencies and nonprofit organizations to be informed about and successfully compete for all available competitive grant dollars.

The philosophical underpinnings of all activities are based on customer service. Whether the customer is another District agency or a nonprofit organization, the staff is committed to responding to requests and needs in a timely, efficient and courteous manner.

OPGD's functions can be classified under five major goals:

1. To support the grants development process in the District government that improves the quality and quantity of grant application submissions resulting in the increase of grant funding for the city.
2. To administer and enhance the Rules of Conduct Governing Donations to District Government.
3. To advance the District's Citywide Strategic Plan by facilitating the establishment and sustainability of multi-sector partnerships.
4. To facilitate capacity building for the District's multi-sector partners, including nonprofit and faith-based organizations, to improve their ability to offer needed services to residents.
5. To enhance research and communication services to DC government, federal government, foundations, businesses, nonprofits and citizens on funding and partnerships opportunities related to the District's strategic priorities.

In FY05, the OPGD team included the Director, Deputy Director, Nonprofit Relations Manager, Research and Communications Manager, two Program Analysts, a Staff Assistant and a temporary receptionist as presented in the following organization chart. The team also includes a Manager for Donations position, which has been vacant since August of 2004 due

to budgetary constraints within the Executive Office. OPGD continues to pursue funding to support this critical position within the office.
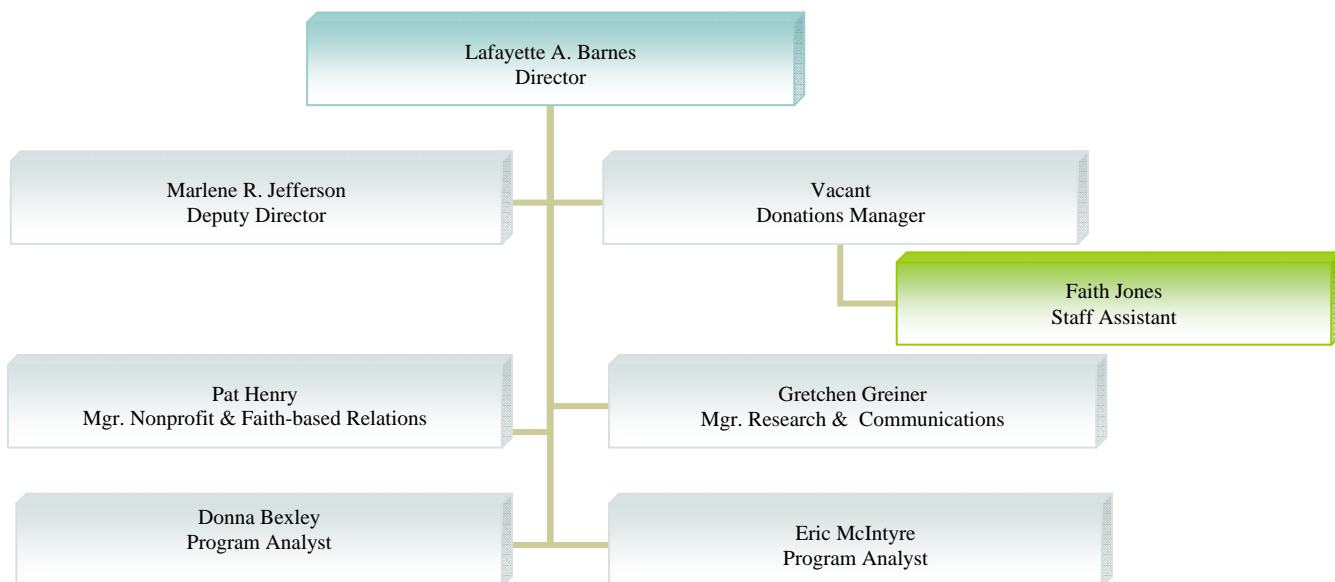
The following sections provide an overview and analysis of OPGD's activities and accomplishments for each program area in FY05. This report is divided into five main areas: Federal Grants, Donations, Multi-sector Partnerships, Services to Nonprofit Community, and Communications. The "Look Ahead" section also provides a summary of OPGD's plans for FY06.

B.   The Year in Review – A Summary

In FY05, OPGD supported the local government's grants development process by identifying and communicating all known new competitive federal grant opportunities, providing technical assistance to District agencies to increase the number of grant application submissions, and partnering with the federal government on their electronic grants initiative.

In this fiscal period, competitive federal grant awards totaled $7.8 million compared to $25.2 million in FY04. A total of 41 grant applications (worth $34.2 million) out of a total 344 Notices of Funding Availability (NOFAs) were submitted of which 15 were awarded. DC Public Schools and the Department of Health received $5.8 million or approximately 74 percent of the total dollar amount awarded in FY05. The University of the District of Columbia received $1.6 million or 21 percent of total awards.

OPGD continued to provide technical assistance to agencies applying for new competitive federal grant funds. During this period, OPGD hired five grant writers for agencies at a cost of $33,100 to prepare five applications for $3.9 million in new competitive federal grants. Of these five, three were not funded and two are still pending. In prior fiscal years, OPGD,

in conjunction with the DC Center for Workforce Development (CWD), offered proposal writing courses for District government employees. Unfortunately, due to budget constraints, this coursework was not available in FY05.

The office maintained its role as the District's State Single Point of Contact for all federal grant programs covered by Executive Order 12372. In FY05, OPGD enhanced this service with an online application process as part of the Grants Information Data System (GIDS). Through GIDS, applicants are now able to submit their information from the SF-424 form (application for federal assistance) and immediately receive a State Application Identifier (SAI) number via e-mail. This number is proof of compliance with Executive Order 12372.

In the area of partnerships, OPGD created and expanded multi-sector partnerships between the District government, private, and public sector partners, as well as intra-agency government partnerships. During this period, OPGD continued to administer the Rules of Conduct Governing Donations to the District, in consultation with the Office of the Chief Financial Officer and Office of the Attorney General. OPGD authorized the acceptance of $2.4 million in total donations made to the District Government, a sharp decrease from FY04 levels. Six District agencies received $2.2 million or roughly 92 percent of the total receipts in FY05. The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) accounted for 46 percent of the total receipts for this period. The OCFO reported the receipt of $14.4 million in private grant revenues to the District Government. Six government agencies, including the DC Energy Office, DC Public Schools, the University of the District of Columbia, the Department of Parks and Recreation, Child and Family Services Agency, and the Metropolitan Police Department, were awarded roughly 80 percent of the total private grant revenues for this period.

OPGD's capacity building initiatives and one-on-one technical assistance for nonprofit and faith-based organizations reached over 3,000 customers. In FY05 we completed the third year of the Strengthening Partners Initiative (SPI), a one-year training program designed to strengthen the organizational development and leadership capacity of local faith-based and nonprofit organizations. This third class was comprised of thirty organizations. The Grants Information Resource Center (GIRC), which opened in FY03, continued to serve District government agency representatives, nonprofits, and faith-based organizations that lack computer access, need assistance to identify potential funding, or want to start a nonprofit organization. GIRC staff also instructed users on ways to perform customized online research on grant and other potential resource opportunities.

During FY05, 344 competitive federal grant opportunities were communicated specifically to DC agencies through the weekly *Federal Grants Bulletin,* which highlights available federal grant funding opportunities and is distributed to District agencies. In addition, over 300 grant programs from the federal government and some $95 million in District government subgrants were announced in our weekly publication, *Funding Alert.* The *Funding Alert* is available on the OPGD Web site. OPGD's customers continued to respond in phenomenal numbers to our ever-expanding Web site, making the office's services and information available to citizens in a more convenient and comprehensive manner. The total number of Web site visits jumped 84 percent to almost 164,000 visits in FY05.

A critical function of OPGD is to establish and maintain lines of communication between potential and existing partners. In FY05, OPGD continued to expand its reach by improving its Web site and utilizing e-mail communications, while maintaining its commitment to quality, timeliness, and accuracy. In addition, OPGD continued the efforts of the Grants Automation Project. Development of Phase One - Grants Database Enhancement – was concluded this year. This phase provides users with the Grants Information Data System (GIDS), which offers a customized and searchable online grants database, the ability to view and report on grant applications and awards via the intranet, and an online system to accept SPOC proposals.
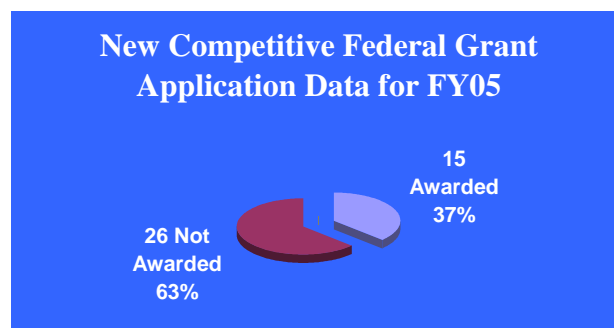
II.   Federal Grants

In FY05, OPGD transitioned its competitive federal grants tracking function to a new system – the Grants Information Data System (GIDS) – a result of the IT Capital Development Plan. A major component of this online, searchable database is the daily extract of competitive federal grant data from Grants.gov, the online clearinghouse of competitive federal grant opportunities. The system automatically generates the weekly *Federal Grants Bulletin* in order to disseminate the grant information to DC agencies. GIDS also allows DC agencies to self-report on their competitive federal grant applications and awards. The analyses of this self-reported data are provided below in Section A. In addition, OPGD provided direct technical assistance as requested by District agencies. OPGD took a lead role in the federal electronic grants initiative, serving on the coordinating committee of the National Grants Partnership. These activities are described in Sections B and C. In FY05, OPGD continued to serve as the District of Columbia's State Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for Executive Order 12372.

A.   District-Wide Data

In FY05, District agencies submitted 41 grant applications, totaling more than $34.2 million, out of a possible 344 NOFAs and were awarded 15 grants, totaling $7.8 million.

Figure 1: New Competitive Federal Grant Application Data

This amount marks a $17.4 million decline in the amount of competitive federal grants awarded to the District compared to FY04. This is attributed, in part, to DOH's receipt of

$1.75 million in new competitive grant awards in FY05 compared to $10.585 million in FY04. This reduction in grant applications and awards is a result of several factors. First, DOH was in a rebuilding year, putting in place needed infrastructure to move its existing portfolio away from grantor imposed restrictions. The rebuilding was successful in that DOH was able to prevent the loss of grant dollars. In addition, DOH was more strategic on the funding opportunities for which applications were submitted. As a rule, the agency did not submit applications for grants: with awards under $75,000; when the eligibility criteria was too broad based combined with relatively few awards; or if the administration where the grant would have to be implemented had a significant number of grants at risk.

<u>NOTICES OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY (NOFAs) and GRANT APPLICATIONS</u>

In FY05, OPGD provided information regarding 344 NOFAs to District government agencies as opportunities were announced through Grants.gov. These NOFAs were selected from all the new competitive federal funding opportunities announced based on eligibility criteria. With the new Grants Information Data System (GIDS), OPGD continues to communicate funding opportunities specifically to District government agencies through its weekly *Federal Grants Bulletin*. With this publication, OPGD is able to deliver summaries and links to complete application packets to District agencies on a timely basis.

District agencies applied for 12 percent (41) of all grant programs for which they were eligible. Some of the primary reasons that District agencies did not apply for grants include:

- Agency had not spent existing funds on similar grant program;
- An award was made the previous year for the same program making the agency ineligible to apply again;
- An award was made in previous years and is still active (continuation);
- Monetary match could not be met;
- Grant scope did not fall within the agency's strategic direction;
- Potential award was insufficient to warrant the investment of staff time and resources for application development;
- Decision to apply was not made on a timely basis preventing sufficient time to develop a viable proposal; or
- Agency staff was not available to write proposal or unable to hire a grant writer.

See Figure 2 (page 8) for detailed information on competitive federal grant activity trends from FY00-FY05.

GRANT AWARDS

Approximately $7.8 million was awarded to the District in response to applications submitted in FY05. Table 1 provides examples of these new competitive federal grant awards.

Table 1: Examples of Federal Grant Awards in FY05

Grant Title	Federal Funding Agency	DC Agency	Amount Funded (in $ 000s)
Charter Schools Program (CSP)	US Department of Education	DC Public Schools	$3,795
Research Infrastructure in Minority Institutions (RIMI)	US Department of Health and Human Services	University of the District of Columbia	$815
FY 2005 WIC Special Project Grants	US Department of Agriculture	Department of Health	$375
Demonstration of Enhanced Services to Children and Youth Who Have Been Exposed to Domestic Violence	US Department of Health and Human Services	Department of Human Services	$130
Administrative Review and Training Grant	US Department of Agriculture	State Education Office	$93
FY 2005 NIJ Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grant Program Grant Announcement	US Department of Justice	Office of Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice	$83
Preserving and Providing Access to Records	National Archives and Records Administration	DC Public Libraries	$42

COMPETITIVE AWARDS BY STRATEGIC AREAS

OPGD categorizes NOFAs into each of the District's six strategic priority areas: Building Safer and Stronger Neighborhoods; Expanding Partnerships and Democracy; Making Government Work; Promoting Economic Development; Providing Quality Education; and Strengthening Children, Youth, Families, & Elders. Table 2 below provides a breakdown of new competitive federal awards and dollar amounts categorized by strategic priority areas. It shows that successful grant applications were made in support of three of the priority areas, especially for programs related to Providing Quality Education. Please note that these figures refer only to new competitive federal grant awards applied for in FY05.

Table 2: Awards Received in Strategic Priority Areas in FY05

Strategic Priorities	# of Awards	Amount of Awards (in $ 000s)
Providing Quality Education	8	$5,729
Strengthening Children, Youth, Families, & Elders	6	$1,977
Building Safer and Stronger Neighborhoods	1	$83

APPLICATIONS AND AWARDS BY AGENCIES

OPGD tracked each NOFA sent to District agencies to determine whether they were going to apply for funds, to encourage them to apply, and to offer them assistance in applying for these opportunities. Working closely with grant managers in each District agency, OPGD

tracked applications submitted by and awarded to each agency. This analysis by agency is illustrated in Table 3.

When interpreting the data presented, please keep in mind the following:

- Data represents only new competitive federal grants applied for in FY05 as reported by agencies;
- Data represents only new competitive federal grant programs; NOT formula, block, unsolicited, or continuing grant programs;
- Data does not include awards when the District government partnered with community-based or nonprofit organizations who served as the lead applicant;
- Award data is limited to amounts for the first year award for multi-year grants.

Table 3: New Competitive Federal Grant Data by DC Agencies in FY05

Agency	Total Applications Submitted	Total Grant Awards	Total Funds Awarded in $ 000s
DC Public Schools	4	3	4,079
Department of Health	7	4	1,755
University of DC	18	4	1,608
Department of Human Services	5	1	130
State Education Office	2	1	93
Office of Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice	1	1	83
DC Public Libraries	1	1	42
Department of Mental Health	1	0	0
DC Energy Office	1	0	0
Metropolitan Police Department	1	0	0
TOTAL	**41**	**15**	**$7,789**

FY00–FY05 COMPETITIVE FEDERAL GRANT ACTIVITY TRENDS

Over the past six fiscal years, the number of NOFAs for which the District Government was eligible increased. In FY00, the District Government applied for 79 of the 196 possible grant opportunities and received 26 awards (33 percent of applications awarded). Of the 238 total grants available in FY01, applications were submitted for 119 opportunities with a success rate of 56 awards (47 percent of applications awarded). In FY02, DC applied for 138 of the 265 possible grants and was awarded 74 grants (54 percent of applications awarded). In FY03, DC applied for 122 of the 320 opportunities available and was awarded 47 of these (39 percent of applications awarded). Of the 326 total grants available in FY04, applications were submitted for 85 opportunities with a success rate of 48 awards (57 percent of applications awarded). In FY05, District agencies submitted 41 grant applications out of a possible 344 NOFAs and were awarded 15 grants (37 percent of applications awarded).

**Figure 2: New Competitive Federal Grant Activity Trends FY00-FY05**
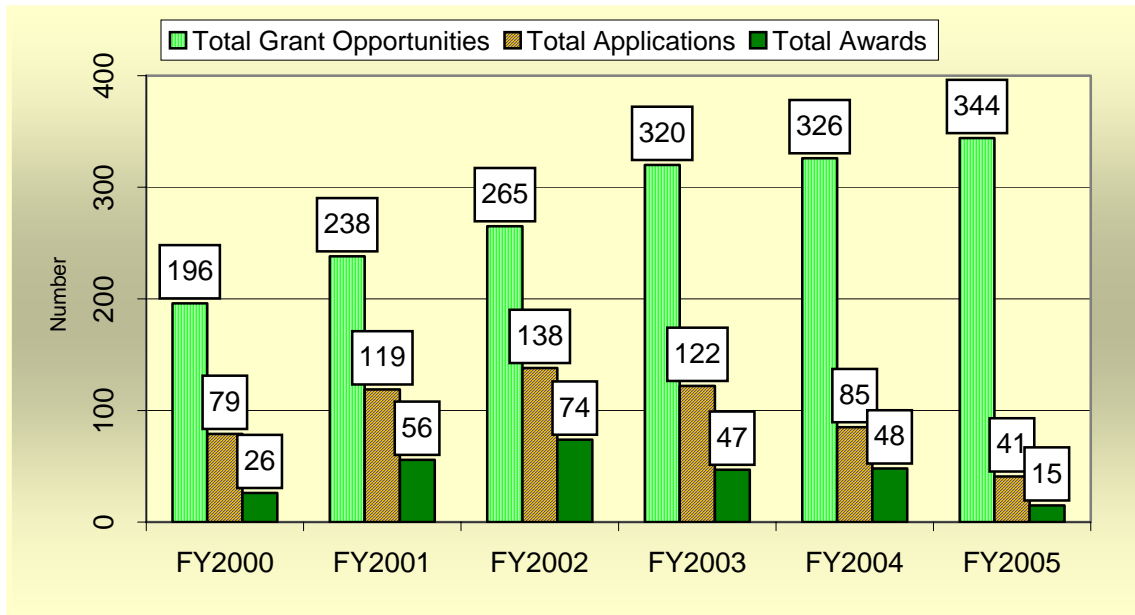
Some of the factors possibly associated with the decline in applications and awards are:

- The high number of awards received by agencies in recent years may have affected their capacity to apply for new grants in FY05, because either some of these awards provided multiple year funding and, therefore, prevented agencies from reapplying or staff was occupied with the implementation of these new grants with limited capacity to pursue additional grants.
- DOH applied for 26 fewer grants in FY05. This decrease in DOH applications is due to strategic efforts in rebuilding and strengthening its grants portfolio so as not to risk losing significant current grant dollars.
- Many grants now require local dollar (cash or in-kind) matches that are not always available.
- With the economic downturn, competition for federal grant dollars has increased, while in some instances, the number of awards has decreased. Some agencies decided not to pursue particular grant opportunities that may have had a low probability for funding.

EIGHT-YEAR GRANT AWARD PERFORMANCE

Figure 3 illustrates the District Government's new competitive federal grant performance over the last eight years.

Figure 3: Total New Competitive Federal Grant Awards FY98-FY05
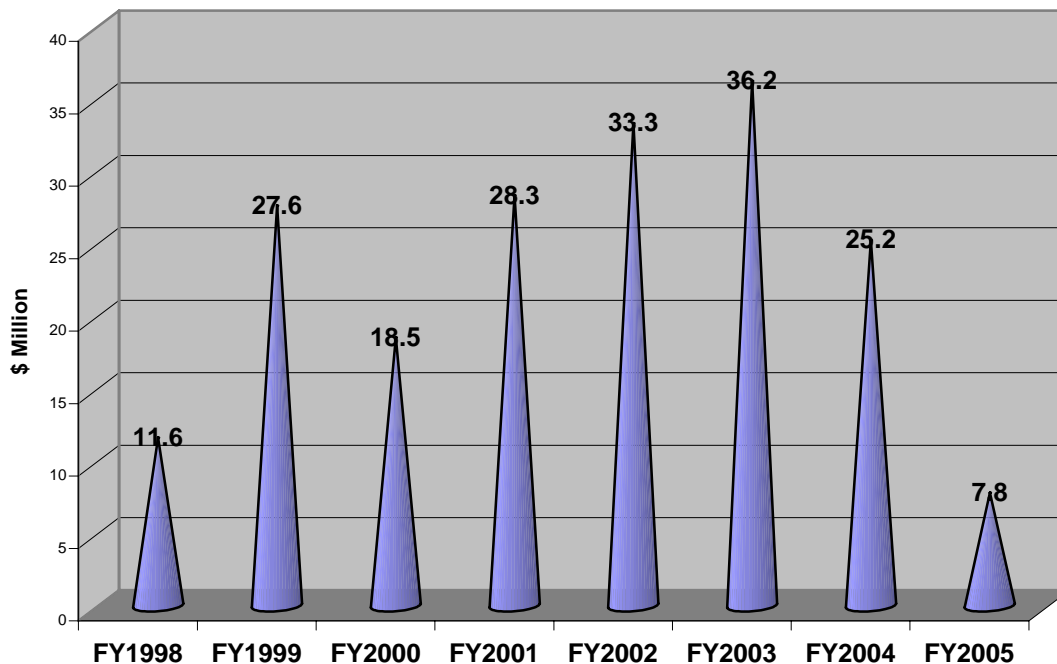
These figures indicate that over an eight-year period, District agencies have received an average of $23.57 million per year in competitive grant revenues. The FY05 figure of $7.8 million contributed to a total of $188.5 million in competitive federal grant awards received since FY98. These FY05 awards will fund key District programs such as the U.S. Department of Education's Charter Schools Program Grant for $3.8 million awarded to DCPS; and the Research Infrastructure in Minority Institutions (RIMI) Grant for $815,000 awarded to the University of the District of Columbia from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. See Table 1 for more examples.

B.   OPGD's Direct Assistance

In addition to informing all District agencies of funding opportunities and tracking citywide grant development activities, OPGD also provides direct technical assistance to requesting agencies.

In FY05, OPGD continued to provide technical assistance to agencies applying for federal funds. These services included researching and advising on funding opportunities, hiring grant writers, coordinating the application process, facilitating planning meetings, participating on grant writing teams, identifying partners, and securing letters of support. OPGD hired five grant writers for District agencies, at a total cost of $33,100, to prepare five applications for $3.9 million in new competitive federal programs. Of the five, three were not funded and two are still pending.

C.   Electronic Grants Initiative

Standardizing federal grant development and management activities is a priority for the U.S. Executive and Legislative branches of government as evidenced by the enactment of Public Law 106-107 in 1999. This law mandates streamlining and improved accountability for federal grants. As a result, the Federal Government launched its Grants.gov initiative in FY03. This government-wide initiative calls for the development of a one-stop, centralized electronic grant portal to find and apply for over 900 grant programs from the 26 federal grant-making agencies. Grants.gov streamlines the process of awarding billions of grant dollars. This program is led by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and is one of 24 federal cross-agency e-Government initiatives focused on improving Internet access to services.

The District Government, through the leadership of OPGD, continues to maintain an active dialogue with Grants.gov as we continue to pursue methods to streamline the grants process. In FY05, OPGD's Deputy Director continued to serve as a member of the Executive Committee of the National Grants Partnership (NGP). The intent of the NGP is to foster and allow for continual interaction between the federal, state, local and tribal governments, as well as the nonprofit community, and to build a bridge between local and state governments and the Federal Government for technical assistance, support and training. The relationship that the District has fostered with NGP has enabled the District along with other states including Maryland and Texas to present such issues as (1) the lack of timeliness in receiving federal grant award data and (2) policies related to the DUNS number requirement for federal grant applications and subsequent federal grant payments. These are just two examples of a host of issues that states are addressing to the Federal Government through workgroups within the NGP.

D.   State Single Point of Contact

OPGD is the District's State Single Point of Contact (SPOC) pursuant to Executive Order (EO) 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs." This order was established in 1982 to encourage coordination between federal agencies and state and local governments by giving local governments the right to review and comment on proposed federal financial assistance in their jurisdiction.   The EO covers approximately 450 grant programs (competitive and non-competitive) of the total federal grants programs. The White House Office of Management and Budget maintains the official policies and the list of all programs covered by this order. All applications related to this EO for federal financial assistance from organizations located in the District of Columbia or providing services in the District of Columbia must be submitted to OPGD for review.

In FY05, with the roll-out of Phase I of the GIDS, OPGD has automated the SPOC process making it more accessible to customers. Applicants for federal grants needing to comply with EO 12372 are now able to electronically provide information about their applications to OPGD at which point they immediately receive the necessary SAI number via e-mail transmittal. The automated system also enables OPGD to more effectively and efficiently track and analyze the data, including how applications support the Citywide Strategic Plan.

In FY05, OPGD issued 256 SAI numbers to organizations applying for grant programs that are covered by Executive Order 12372. This represents a decline of approximately 25 percent below FY04. Of this total, 182 were private organizations applying for federal funds and 74 were District government agencies. The amount of dollars applied for by the 256 applicants totaled $475.6 million (approximately $226.1 million applied for by non-governmental organizations and $249.5 million by District government agencies). This includes all grant programs, competitive as well as non-competitive. Further analysis of the decline in SAI numbers issued indicates a 21 percent decline in the total number of applications submitted for review from private organizations compared to a 10 percent increase in the total number of applications submitted for review from District government agencies.

III. Donations

Fiscal year 2005 marked the third full year that the Rules of Conduct Governing Donations to the District Government were implemented since its enactment by the Mayor's Memorandum (2002-1) dated January 8, 2002. During this period, the Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO) and Office of Partnerships and Grants Development (OPGD) deposited all District agencies' authorized financial donations into the D.C. Treasurer's Private Donations Fund Account (0450) in SOAR. OPGD also authorized donations to support the District of Columbia's Presidential Inaugural Day Celebration held on January 15, 2005, as well as the Mayor's Trade Mission to Beijing, China.

In August 2005, the catastrophic destruction and displacement caused by Hurricane Katrina led to an unprecedented emergency relief response by the American Red Cross, local government agencies, and numerous volunteers. This massive relief effort created many challenges for District officials who had to respond quickly to provide shelter and donated items for 220 Katrina evacuees at the DC Amory. OPGD worked with Serve DC and DHS/Strong Families to approve and process the donations accepted by the government for this emergency effort in FY05. However, due to the nature of this response, OPGD's final Katrina Donations Report will be published in FY06.

Please note that the Executive Branch of the District Government, unlike in Baltimore, Maryland or Richmond, Virginia, is the largest municipality in the region to institute a process to approve the solicitation, acceptance and use of private donations. Thus, the District leads the region in institutionalizing a donation system to augment private support for public sector initiatives.

A. Donation Amounts

In fiscal year 2005, OPGD authorized the acceptance of $2.4 million in total donations made to the District Government. The majority of these donations were in-kind contributions worth $1.7 million, and the remainder was financial gifts valued at $737,000. Between FY02 and FY05, OPGD authorized approximately $11.5 million in total donation receipts for District agencies. During this period, the District received $9.2 million in in-kind contributions and $2.3 million in financial donations.

Figure 4 below shows the four-year trend in authorized donations made to the District. It illustrates that an average of $2.8 million worth of donations have been accepted annually by the District Government since FY02.

Figure 4: Authorized Donations Made to the District Government FY02-FY05
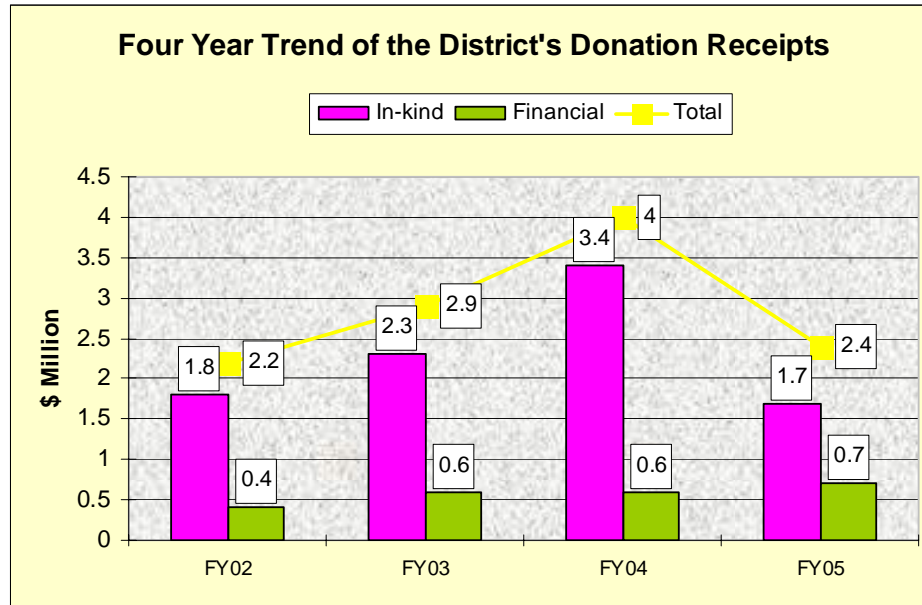

Figure 5 shows the top ten District Government donation recipients for fiscal year 2005. A closer look at authorized donations made to the government reveals that six District agencies received $2.2 million or roughly 92 percent of the total receipts in FY05. The Department of Park and Recreation (DPR) accounted for 46 percent of the total receipts for this period. DPR continues to be the top ranking local agency that has benefited from the District's donation process. Other top donation beneficiaries are Child and Family Services Agency, Executive Office of the Mayor, Office of the Chief Technology Officer, and District of Columbia Public Library[1]. Please note that ten District agencies took advantage of the District's donation process during this period. Thus, OPGD plans to fill its vacant (FTE) donation position to expand its outreach and services to other District agencies that can benefit from this process as well.

---

[1] The District of Columbia Public Library has received authority from the Council of the District of Columbia to accept and use gifts without prior approval by the Mayor. However, final legislative approval is pending in the U.S. Congress. Once Congressional approval is realized, OPGD will cease its oversight of this function. DCPL and OPGD officials are developing transition plans to facilitate this process.

Figure 5: Top Ten Donation Recipients in FY05[2]
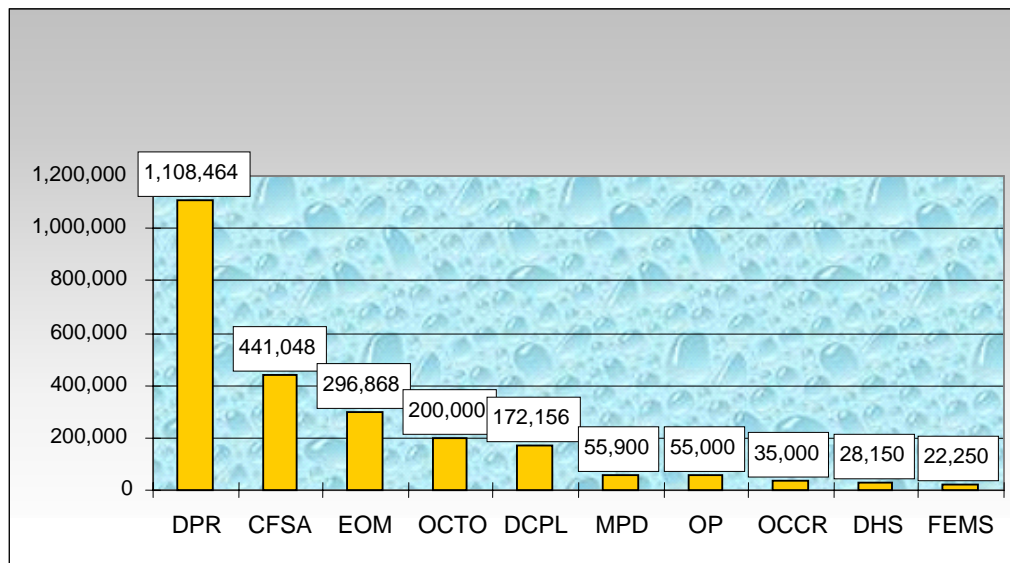
Figure 6 illustrates the top donation recipients in the Executive Office of the Mayor (EOM) for FY05. Accordingly, the State Education Office and the Office of the Secretary were the top two recipients of donations in the EOM. Their donations were used to support activities such as the District's Annual Youth Service Day, DC Emancipation Day Celebration, Mayor Williams' Trade Mission to Beijing, China, and the DC's Presidential Inaugural Day Celebration.

Figure 6: Top Donation Recipients in the Executive Office of the Mayor in FY05[3]

Top EOM Donation Recipients in FY05

---
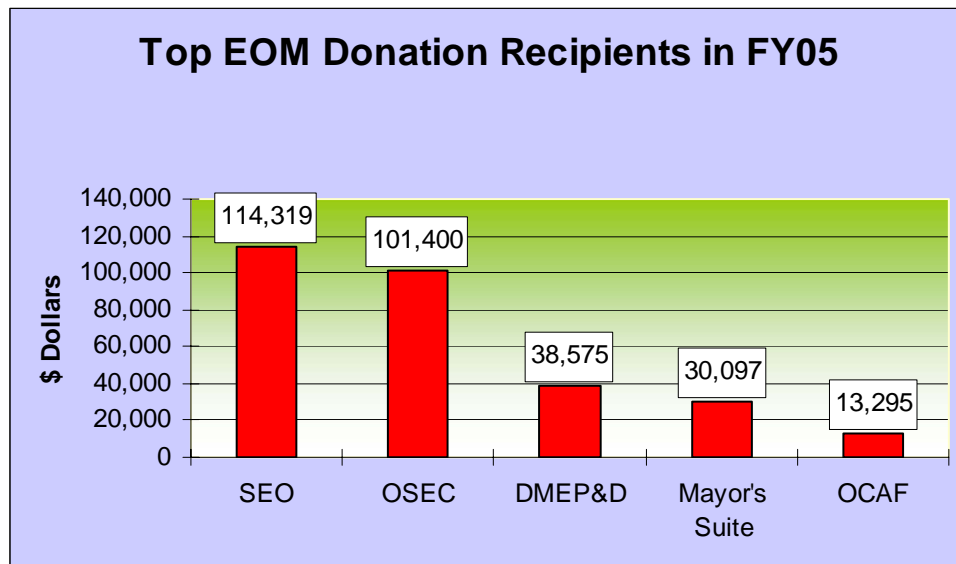
[2] OCCR – Office of Citizen Complaint Review

[3] OSEC – Office of the Secretary; OCAF – Office of Community Affairs; Mayor's Suite – Mayor's office

In FY05, District agencies used private donations to augment support for their respective projects and services for local residents. A brief description of sample donations and related benefits are described in Table 4 below. Please visit the OPGD Web site at http://opgd.dc.gov for more details.

Table 4: Sample of Donation Benefits to the District in FY05

D.C. Agency	Donor	Benefit(s)	Service Area(s)
Office of Planning	National Association of Realtors	Promoted local residents engagement in the revitalization planning for the Sursum Corda neighborhood	Ward 6
Department of Parks and Recreation	Kaiser Permanente	Subsidized the Aquatics Division's repair and replacement of pool equipment and fees	Citywide
DC Public Library	DC Public Library Foundation	Supported landscaping services at Palisade Library Branch	Ward 3
Serve DC	Freddie Mac Foundation, Nike Inc., and other donors	Donated to the National Youth Service Day in April 2005 in which local youth and volunteers performed several community service projects in the District	Citywide
Fire and Emergency Services	DC Insurance Federation & First Alert	Provided smoke detectors for the District's Smoke Alarm Give Away Program	Citywide
Child and Family Services Agency	Capital One	Supported CFSA's Summer Camp for the District's foster care children	Citywide
Department of Human Services	The Today Show Charitable Foundation	Provided clothing, education materials, health care products, and toys to needy area children	Citywide

The above donations made to the District Government demonstrate the tremendous amount of good will, corporate social responsibility, and philanthropic support that exists in the Greater Washington Metropolitan area. It also represents the growing confidence that donors have developed in the District's donation process. OPGD plans to capitalize on this by informing more local agencies and potential donors about the District's donation process, and its benefits to the residents and stakeholders of our nation's capital city.

B.   Outreach and Training

OPGD, in conjunction with the Office of the Attorney General (OAG), conducted group training sessions for approximately 50 District personnel from the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development and Executive Office of the Mayor in FY05.   The training provided a step-by-step account of OPGD's online donations application process, the OAG's legal sufficiency review, the completion of all donation agreements, the OCFO's procedures for depositing financial contributions, as well as several

donation training scenarios. In addition, OPGD provided one-on-one donation consultation with staff from a wide-range of local agencies that submitted donation applications during this period.

On July 13, 2005, the OPGD director testified on the Public Library Gift Act of 2005 (Bill 16-280) before the City Council of the District of Columbia's Committee on Education, Libraries, and Recreation. The director stated that the Executive Office of the Mayor is generally supportive of the legislation. This measure would authorize DCPL to accept gifts without the Mayor's approval, pursuant to the Rules of Conduct Governing Donations Made to the District Government. The OPGD director did discuss the following recommendations to strengthen the DC Public Library's capacity to implement the bill:

(1) Add language in Section 2 (a) that would permit DCPL to accept donated gifts including real property donations from potential donors;
(2) Include language in Section 2 (b) that would require DCPL to report on small donated items if valued under $10,000;
(3) Consider specific reporting requirements to accept in-kind donations as Section 3 (g) does not address non-monetary gifts.

Note: This legislation is still pending in the U.S. Congress.
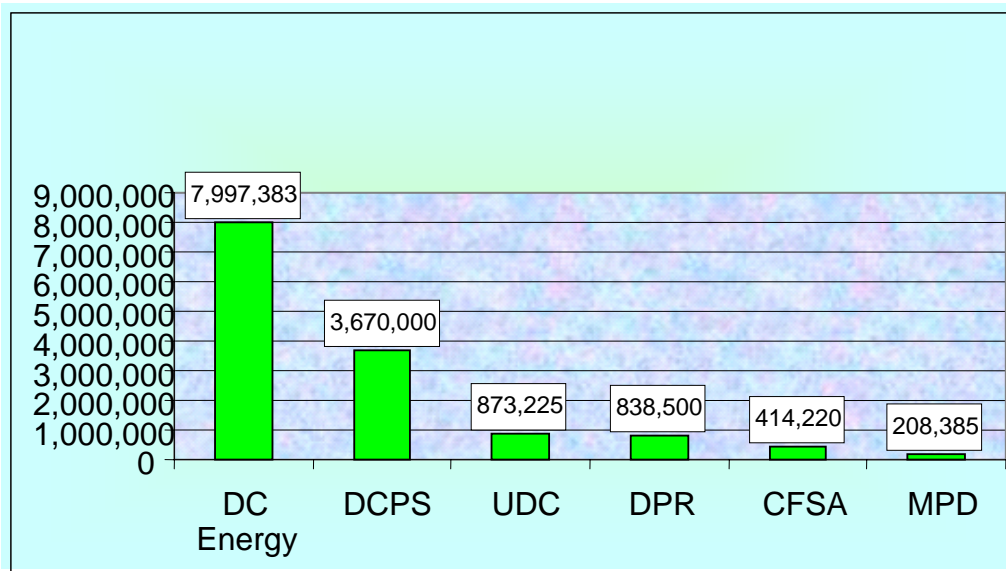
IV.   Multi-Sector Partnerships

The Office of Partnerships and Grants Development is responsible for facilitating relations between multi-sector partners such as the Federal Government, faith-based organizations, and nonprofits to support the District Government's Citywide Strategic Plan and Mayor's public policy priorities. These multi-sector relationships are philanthropic in nature and based on the premise that no one entity whether nonprofit, private, or public has sufficient resources to address the diverse public policy priorities of the District of Columbia. This section reports on OPGD's efforts to facilitate the development and enhancement of partnerships to advance the quality of life for the residents of the District of Columbia.

A.   District-Wide Data on Private Grants

Private grants represent one source of partnerships between the funders and District agencies. The Office of the Chief Financial Officer's Office of Budget and Planning (OBP) reports that the District Government had Congressional Approved Budget Authority for nearly $14.4 million in private grant funds for FY05. These private grant revenues supported a variety of new and multi-year public-private initiatives in six District agencies, including the following: DC Energy Office ($7,997,383), District of Columbia Public Schools ($3,670,000), University of the District of Columbia ($873,225), and Department of Parks and Recreation ($838,500). Figure 7 shows the top six District government agencies that received private grants.

Figure 7: Top Six Private Grant Recipients in FY05

The five-year Protocol Agreement established between the City of Tshwane and the District of Columbia represents another type of partnership monitored by OPGD. Although the Office of the Secretary is the lead office in the Executive Office of the Mayor, OPGD remains directly engaged in this protocol agreement.

B. Protocol Agreement between the City of Tshwane, South Africa and the District of Columbia

In July 2002, Executive Mayor Father Mkhatshwa of the City of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality (CTMM) in South Africa and Mayor Williams signed a five-year protocol agreement in which both cities agreed to exchange best practices and joint strategies that shall enhance their respective public administration and policy priorities. The City of Tshwane, also known as Pretoria, is the national capitol of South Africa. Pursuant to the agreement, both municipalities have established joint steering committees headed by the CTMM's Office of International Relations and the DC Office of the Secretary. The purpose of the committee is to implement and monitor action steps adopted to support the protocol agreement's five goals – Information Technology and Public Administration, Citizen Participation in the Public Policy Process, Public Safety Policies and Procedures, Prevention of HIV/AIDS, and the Promotion of Economic Development and Tourism.

In FY05, OPGD advised the EOM's Chief of Staff and Secretary of the District of Columbia on ways to support the Mayor's proposed trip to Africa. The OPGD director also provided a list of potential nominees to serve on the District's City of Tshwane Advisory Committee. The establishment of this committee was designed to support the full implementation of the protocol agreement between these two capital cities. Although the Mayor's trip to Africa and creation of the Tshwane Advisory Committee were postponed, OPGD will continue to support this effort in FY06.

V.   Services to Nonprofit Community

OPGD continued its role in assisting a diverse group of nonprofit and faith-based organizations across the District of Columbia in FY05. In its effort to provide technical assistance to small start-up community-based groups and faith-based organizations, OPGD held organizational and executive leadership training workshops, meetings, one-on-one technical assistance meetings, resource development training sessions, and planned for its annual public-private partnership conference. In addition, the Strengthening Partners Initiative (SPI) successfully completed its third year. The commitment to these activities reflects the value OPGD places on the important role that nonprofit and faith-based organizations play in leveraging grants and related resources in the provision of services to District residents. A description of key activities and services is provided below.

A.   Customer Service/Capacity Building

In FY05, OPGD held capacity building and related technical support workshops for representatives of more than 6,102 nonprofit and faith-based organizations. This number includes approximately 3,100 nonprofit and faith-based organizations receiving technical assistance through the receipt of our weekly newsletter, *Funding Alert*. OPGD presented information about its services at numerous workshops, conferences, and meetings with nonprofit and faith-based organizations, as well as DC government agencies. For example, OPGD presented workshops for the members of the Goodwin Douglas Community Development Corporation addressing resource development, the University of the District of Columbia's Nonprofit Management Certificate program addressing how to apply for IRS nonprofit status, and the Alliance of Nonprofit Management's conference addressing resource development for faith-based organizations.

OPGD partnered with the Department of Health's Addition Prevention and Recovery Administration to provide technical assistance and capacity building training to their grantees. The training included: a two-day sustainability conference; two workshops addressing financial management and budgeting, and how to prepare successful APRA proposals; and 20 hours of one-on-one on site technical assistance by a consultant to 25 APRA grantees.

One-on-one consultations continue to be a service highly sought after by the nonprofit and faith-based communities. OPGD staff works with organizations on how to access funding, how to become a nonprofit organization, and how to write successful grant proposals.

B.   Faith-Based Organizations

OPGD's Faith-Based Initiative has provided a variety of customer service/capacity building activities to some 385 members of faith-based organizations. Information was presented at a variety of faith-based conferences and meetings addressing public and private funding, proposal writing, and the new federal e-grants system. OPGD presented at the Compassion Capital Fund Training Conference in May for Compassion Capital Fund grantee organizations. OPGD coordinated a five-part series of half-day workshops for the Mayor's Office of Religious Affairs entitled Strengthening Our Faith Partners. The workshops included how to write a winning proposal, access information on federal funding using e-grants, find foundation funds, apply for your 501(c)(3), and learn about capacity building best practices.

OPGD continues to work closely with the Mayor's Office of Religious Affairs, the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, the White House Office on Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, and other faith-based organizations in the city to develop and support this faith-based initiative.

C.   Strengthening Partners Initiative (SPI)

The Strengthening Partners Initiative (SPI) is a one-year organizational and executive leadership development program for emerging faith-based and nonprofit organizations in DC. The program offers bi-weekly capacity building instruction on core topics such as board development, resource development, and financial management. It also provides specialized coaching and requires the participants to demonstrate how they plan to use the tools learned from the program.

SPI successfully completed its third class in October 2005. Of the 30 organizations that were selected on a competitive basis, 22 successfully completed all phases and graduated. A description of each organization that graduated is presented in Table 5 below.

Table 5: Strengthening Partners Initiative Participants   2004-2005

ORGANIZATION	DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES
African American Women's Resource Center	Mission is to teach girls how to write, read, speak and analyze and provide women with opportunities to change their lives financially, physically and spiritually.
Anacostia Bible Church Christian School	Mission is to facilitate lives by establishing expanding and elevating the fundamentals of education and relationships.
Angel Youth Outreach Ministry Inc.	Mission is to bring about positive change in the lives of youth and their families through development of their spiritual physical and financial lives.
Beyond Talent	Mission is to build bridges for GED graduates to success in higher education, community service, and leadership development.
The Bishop Alfred A. Owens, Jr. Family Life Community Center	Mission is to provide activities that will enhance the quality of life of families by providing comprehensive services in the areas of health, fitness, and education.

ORGANIZATION	DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES
Coalition for Economic Empowerment (CEE)	Mission is to provide service teens and their parents in public housing. Through training and one-on-one interactions participants learn to set and achieve educational, employment and economic goals.
Church of the First Born	Mission is to evangelize, educate and empower adults, youth and children through scriptures, biblical studies, leadership classes, community outreach, missions programs and other ministries and activities.
Council of Churches of Greater Washington	Mission is to service the body of Christ through individual, family, and community outreach programs.
Homes for Hope	Mission is to provide quality and affordable homes to people living with HIV/AIDS.
House of Help City of Hope, Inc.	Mission is to provides assistance to persons facing substance abuse and homelessness as well as to help singles and families live productive lives.
Literacy Works Communication and Technology Center	Mission is to improve literacy skills of disadvantaged children. Using media arts, mentoring and after-school programs they foster an environment where youth not only learn, but retain the knowledge they've acquired.
Learning and Leadership in Families	Mission is to help parents and teachers uncover their own creativity and use it to stimulate basic skill development and excitement about learning in young children.
Little Lights Urban Ministries	Mission is to provide places of acceptance, empowerment, and inspiration for DC youth through caring relationships academic and arts programs, community service, and Christian spirituality.
National Association on Teen Fitness and Exercise (NATFE)	Mission is to promote healthy eating and physical activity to youth and their families through culturally relevant programs involving partnership and collaborations to combat the ills associated with obesity.
New Community After School and Advocacy Program	Mission is to provide comprehensive educational and youth development programs to disadvantaged youth.
Pediatric AIDS/HIV Care, Inc.	Mission is to improve the wee-being of Children (ages 5-18) living with HIV/AIDS through therapeutic and educational enrichment services so they can achieve their potential.
PIZZAZZ INC.	Mission is to provide a program for youth that has the ability to mentor, empower, educate and perform artistically to foster self development.
SINGA, Inc.	Mission is to offer programs and services to improve and promote skills for untapped talent seeking careers in retail, fashion and textile design as employees or entrepreneurs.
Society for Humane Action	Mission focuses on prevention of homelessness, servicing the mental health population, and representing values which support and improve DC communities.
The Elisha Project, Inc.	Mission is to increase self-confidence and enhance family relationships among elementary aged students in Ward 5 through mentoring and counseling services.
Words Beats and Life, Inc.	Mission is to develop and support a community of young artists in the DC area, with a focus in Ward 7.
Young Ladies of Tomorrow, Inc.	Mission is to provide therapeutic services, tutoring, job training, and self-esteem building to adolescents and their families in the DC area to set them on the road to success.

The first phase of the SPI curriculum provided bi-weekly instruction on one of the following topics: organizational assessment, board development, resource development, financial management and controls, human resources, standard operating procedures, collaboration, technology, marketing, program evaluation and outcomes measures.

The training sessions were held at numerous venues including the International Monetary Fund, the Charles D. Sumner School Museum and Archives, the Bishop Alfred A. Owens, Jr., Family Life Community Center, the Hillwood Museum and Gardens, the Martin Luther King Library, and One Judiciary Square. Holding the sessions at different venues provided the participants with exposure to the many resources available to their organizations as they endeavor to build capacity.

The second phase of the program offered one-on-one technical support. Participants were paired with executives from established private or nonprofit organizations, as well as District government agencies, to address particular concerns or projects of their choice. These executives served as their coaches and were recruited from the following organizations: Clean & Pure Kids, Inc., University of the District of Columbia's Nonprofit Certificate Program, Goodwin Douglas CDC, Office of Partnerships and Grants Development, Fair Chance, Inc., CABEL Foundation, RDB Consulting, National's Capital Child and Family Development, DC Bar Association, and other OPGD/SPI partners.

The third and final phase required each SPI participant to demonstrate how its organization would use the tools learned during this one-year program. They consulted with their coaches on the best way to make their presentations. The participants were given thirty minutes to present their projects before their classmates. This phase allowed them to showcase how they would implement what they learned from the training sessions. Some of the presentations were based on developing strategic plans, standard operating procedures manuals, staff handbooks, marketing plans, marketing brochures and generic proposals. For example, Jackie Hart of SINGA, Inc. worked with her board to develop a Strategic Plan called "We Can Do This". The strategic plan included action items with responsibilities, timelines and evaluations, in addition to goals for board committees and the chief executive officer.   It was so well received by the other participants that she was asked to share the information with them.

***SPI III participants, Mazi Mutafa of Words Beats and Life and Emily Piccirillo of Pediatric AIDS/HIV Care, Inc.,
presenting their Presentation of Learning Projects to their classmates***

The 2004-2005 graduation was held at Allen Chapel AME Church. Of the 30 participants that started the program, 22 successfully completed all phases and graduated. Guest speaker Denise Rolark Barnes, publisher of *The Washington Informer*, discussed the importance of the nonprofit community's contribution to improving the quality of life for the residents of the District of Columbia. Each participant received a certificate of completion signed by Mayor Williams and OPGD's director.

2004-2005 SPI Graduating Class

When asked what the program meant to them, some of the participants said:

"SPI not only helped to take the Bishop Alfred A. Owens, Jr. Family Life Community Center to another level, it helped to assist us to focus on the importance of infrastructure and sustainability. SPI provided a network of other ED's who brought different aspects of creating and maintaining an effective community-based organization. I gained invaluable resources throughout the training duration. The facilitators were excellent and each of the topics discussed were relevant and engaging. My coach was very instrumental in assisting us to develop and implement a strategic plan. I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to be a part of the program. It has definitely strengthened our foundation for the Ward 5 community."
Beverly Lucas, The Bishop Alfred A. Owens, Jr. Family Life Community Center

"Homes for Hope, Inc. was struggling to find ways to get funding and answer many legal problems. With the resources made available to us through the SPI program, we were able to be paired with a mentor who was sensitive and quite understanding of the plight we faced. As a result, we were able to be guided to funding sources, obtain legal advice and develop a relationship with other agencies that were working to fulfill similar needs. The SPI program was vital to our "baby steps." In addition, SPI afforded us the opportunity to develop a sensitivity training to help our staff learn more about the "cultural

*and social" needs of our special clients. Without the information and the
foundation initiated through this program, Homes for Hope, Inc. would not be
able to mark the successes we have garnered for the past year."*
Veronica Jenkins, Homes for Hope, Inc.

*"SPI gave my org a newtwork of orgs that I might never have had the chance
to meet, let alone work with."*
Mazi A. E. Mutafa, Executive Director, Words Beats and Life Inc.

The Fannie Mae Foundation's decision to partner with the Office of Partnerships and Grant Development in this unique capacity building initiative enabled us to leverage our respective investments by enhancing the SPI training curriculum and services for these nonprofits. As a result, OPGD was able to provide competitive capacity building mini-grants to the 2004-2005 graduates. The participants were required to submit a proposal outlining their intended use of the grant funding. Of the 22 SPI graduates, 17 applied and received grant awards. The capacity building grants will be used to hire consultants to facilitate board training and executive coaching, purchase software to create personalized business and personnel forms, as well as to attend capacity building training at the Center for Nonprofit Advancement CEO Leadership series.

D.   Annual Public-Private Partnership Conference

During FY05, OPGD planned the 7th Annual Public-Private Partnership Conference, which took place on December 13, 2005. The over 350 attendees were from diverse organizations including the federal, foundation, nonprofit and local sectors.

The lunch and plenary session, hosted by Denise Rolark Barnes, featured Aretha Ferrell-Brown, Director of the Office of Neighborhood Action, Tara Jones, Interim Director of the Office of Neighborhood Services, and Robin W. Patton, Regional Community Developer for the Fairfax County Department of Systems Management for Human Services

The conference's theme was Stronger Partnerships-Stronger Communities: Bringing Neighborhoods Together. OPGD once again partnered with the Center for Nonprofit Advancement (formerly the Washington Council of Agencies), the largest and oldest nonprofit membership organization in the DC area, to organize the conference. Capacity building organizations such as the Association of Fundraising Professionals/Washington DC Metro Area Chapter, the C. Whitney Group, Fair Chance, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Mission Fish, the JMT Consulting Group, and others provided information about their organizations in the exhibit hall.

Over twenty-five organizations provided information to attendees in the exhibit hall

Every year the conference provides opportunities for District government agencies, neighboring county governments, federal government agencies, nonprofit organizations, faith-based organizations, foundations, businesses and individuals to equip their organizations with the tools necessary for building and sustaining public-private partnerships that will support the priorities of the Citywide Strategic Plan.

The goals of the conference continue to be:

- Bringing together a variety of practical and informative presentations by recognized experts in their field;
- Providing networking opportunities;
- Facilitating multi-sector partnerships that improve the quality of life for citizens and residents of the District of Columbia and the surrounding metropolitan area;
- Presenting informational panels on foundation funding, federal funding, and related resource development strategies.

Attendees at the 7th Annual Public-Private Partnership Conference

The conference's workshops covered such topics as fundraising with the power of eBay Auctions, developing federal grant application budgets, hiring the right staff, managing grant funds, and program evaluation. Each year, not only do participants get the benefit of equipping their organizations with strategic tools to build capacity, but they also receive the added benefit of having the opportunity to network with other organizations as a means of developing partnerships to further their efforts.

At the opening session, Brenda Donald Walker, Deputy Mayor for Children, Youth, Families and Elders, set the tone by giving a rousing welcome to the participants.   The lunch and plenary session was hosted by Denise Rolark Barnes. The theme of the session was The Partnership Show: Community Engagement Initiatives.   The distinguished panelists included Aretha Ferrell-Brown, Director of the Office of Neighborhood Action in the Executive Office of the Mayor, Tara Jones, Interim Director of the Office of Neighborhood Services in the Office of the City Administrator, and Robin W. Patton, Regional Community Developer for the Fairfax County Department of Systems Management for Human Services. The panel discussed the importance of strategies to promote citizen engagement to strengthen communities.

The annual conference continues to be a tremendous success. In the spirit of the strategic priority of "Expanding Partnerships and Democracy," OPGD is committed to forging partnerships that bring different sectors of the community together around a common agenda –an agenda that ensures the well-being, health, safety and prosperity of the residents of the District of Columbia.

E.   Grants Information Resource Center

The Grants Information Resource Center (GIRC), which opened its doors in February 2003, continued to provide technical assistance in a supportive environment that connects its "customers" – District government agencies, nonprofit and faith-based organizations – to information about resources that can improve services in the District of Columbia. Through this initiative, OPGD supports the Mayor's priority of providing opportunities to maximize resources, while advancing its own mission to help build stronger community organizations.

Over 200 individuals made use of the GIRC resources during FY05. Of these visitors, 82 percent represented nonprofits, 10 percent were from faith-based organizations, and 8 percent came from DC government agencies. Visitors to the GIRC rated their experience as overwhelmingly positive. In general, 81 percent of visitors rated the center as an excellent service, while 17 percent rated it as very good. Comments include:

"(The GIRC was) extremely helpful and supportive. (The staff) really helped me understand the database."
Louise Wiener, Learning and Leadership in Families

"The center is very helpful and beneficial to the success of our organization."
Paula D Harris, Andrew Young National Center for Social Change

"I was given valuable resource information."
Calvin D Jackson, First AME Church of Alexandria

With the move to our new location on the eleventh floor in the One Judiciary Square Building, OPGD was able to expand the GIRC to six computer stations. This enabled our office not only to provide outreach services to additional organizations but also to conduct training on our newly launched Grants Information Data System (GIDS). Also in FY05, a grassroots outreach campaign was launched to reach out to and provide services in the GIRC to the nonprofit, faith-based and District Government communities.

Although the GIRC originally was used by emerging and small-scale nonprofits that either lacked computer access or the knowledge to best use their existing technology, it is now a meaningful resource to many DC government agency, nonprofit, and faith-based representatives with varying levels of computer experience and fundraising knowledge. The office's outreach efforts, as well as recommendations made by word of mouth, have resulted in this expanded variety of users.

Eric McIntyre, who staffs the Grants Information Resource Center, assists clients as they search for grant funding and capacity building resources

Currently featured in the GIRC are state-of-the-art computers with access to foundation database subscriptions. It is staffed by the Grants Information Resource Center coordinator who provides guidance and assistance with customized searches. In addition to technology resources, GIRC provides access to print resources and literature from other nonprofit capacity building/technical assistance organizations in the DC area. Access to the GIRC is free of charge but requires an appointment.

Through this initiative, OPGD is supporting the Mayor's goal of expanding opportunities for all District residents and efforts to strengthen the organizational leadership and management capacity of local government and nonprofit officials.

F.   Volunteer Activity

For the seventh year, OPGD staff volunteered with *Everybody Wins! DC*, a citywide reading mentor program. Through a partnership with Walker-Jones Elementary School, staff from the office read with elementary school students during one lunch hour per week as part of the *Everybody Wins! DC Power Lunch* program.   This personal commitment to volunteering at the grassroots level is another reflection of the office's commitment to the nonprofit community and residents of the District of Columbia.

VI.   Communications

A critical function of OPGD has been its role in establishing and maintaining lines of communication between existing and potential partners. In FY05, OPGD continued to expand its reach by improving its Web site information (both Internet and intranet), providing its funding opportunity publications – *Funding Alert* and *Federal Grants Bulletin* – to broader audiences, and advertising its events through the online Citywide Calendar. In addition, OPGD completed the first phase of its IT Capital Development Plan – the Grants Information Data System (GIDS) – to enhance its capacity to capture and disseminate grants data. OPGD is committed to reaching all District residents regardless of their access to electronic communication means; therefore, the staff continued to conduct one-on-one meetings, presentations at community gatherings, and orientation sessions to provide information to all.

A.   Internet Web Site (http://opgd.dc.gov)

Since March 2001, OPGD has hosted an extensive Web site that describes all areas of the office's operations. The site makes the office's services and information available to citizens in a convenient and comprehensive manner. OPGD's customers continue to visit the Web site in phenomenal numbers. Overall, activity jumped 82 percent to almost 164,000 visits in FY05. Figure 8 below charts this increase.

Figure 8: OPGD Web Site Visits – A Comparison of FY03, FY04, and FY05
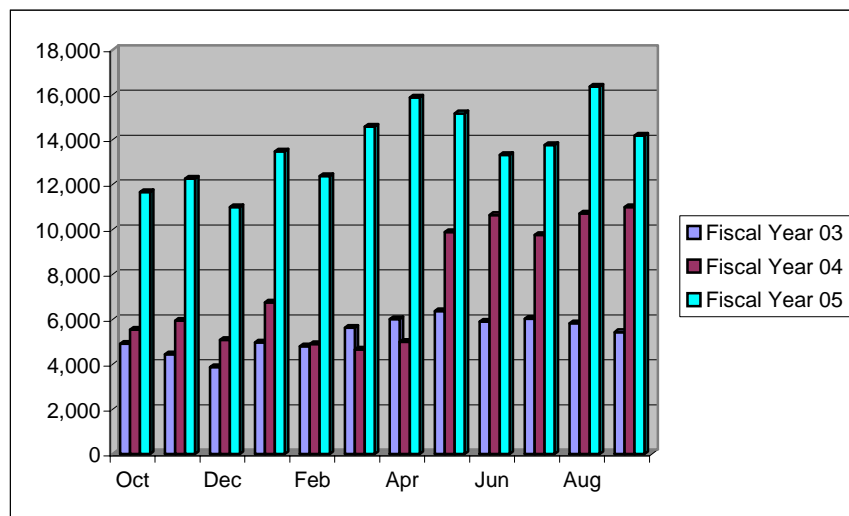
Note: The new Grants Information Data System may have played a significant role in this major increase of Web visits. See Section F – Grants Information Data System for more details.

The Web site continues to grow and has a variety of links to external information sources such as federal funding resources and nonprofit support organizations. In addition to the newsroom, frequently asked questions, and feedback form, the Web site provides information on the following topics:

Table 6: Internet Services and Information

Services	Information
• Grants Information Resource Center • **Search for Grants** • Federal Grants Assistance • Foundation and Corporate Affairs • Nonprofit and Faith-Based Support • State Single Point of Contact • **Strengthening Partners Initiative**	• Agency Calendar • Grant Funding Alerts • District Grants Clearinghouse • Annual Reports • Donation Reports • Finding Grants • Creating Partnerships • Proposal Writing • Hiring Grant Writers • Starting a Nonprofit

Note: Topics in bold were added in FY05; Search for Grants links the public to the Grants Information Data System's customized and searchable online federal, foundation, and local government grants database.

B. Intranet Web Site

In FY02, the District Government developed an intranet Web site for internal business functions in order to better serve government offices, agencies, and employees. With help from the Office of the Chief Technology Officer, OPGD was on the forefront of this initiative as one of the first government offices to provide intranet content. OPGD's intranet Web site hosts the District Government's online donation application and monitoring system.

Some of OPGD's intranet information is also accessible on the Internet; however, the Private Donation forms, including the interactive "Application to Approve Donations" form and the donations agreement, are available exclusively to the intranet. (Please see Section III – Donations for more details). The intranet site has the following content:

Table 7: Intranet Services & Information

Services	Information
• Federal Grants • Technical Assistance • Private Donations	• Federal Grants Bulletin • Federal Grant Reports • State Single Point of Contact

C. Funding Alert

OPGD's free weekly publication of funding opportunities, *Funding Alert,* provides District agencies and nonprofit organizations with time-sensitive information on grant programs currently being funded, complete with contact details and Web links. As of FY05, this publication is automatically generated from the Grants Information Data System (GIDS). The system is designed to extract competitive federal grant data from the Grants.gov site on a daily basis and to allow District government agencies to post their subgrants data to this database. (See Section F – Grants Information Data System for more information). In addition, current foundation funding opportunities are added to GIDS by OPGD staff.

In FY05, over 300 grant programs from the federal government and well over $95 million in District grant opportunities were announced in the *Funding Alert* publication. Training opportunities, community meetings, tools for resource development, and information regarding the federal e-Grants initiative – Grants.gov – also were publicized in the Resources & Announcements section.

Since its inception in FY98, the number of *Funding Alert* subscribers has increased from 350 to over 3,200. OPGD publishes 51 issues of the *Funding Alert* per year.

D. Federal Grants Bulletin

In FY03, OPGD developed a more efficient way to better communicate federal funding opportunities specifically to District government agencies – the *Federal Grants Bulletin*. As of FY05, this publication is automatically generated from the Grants Information Data System (GIDS), which is designed to extract competitive federal grant data from the

Grants.gov site on a daily basis. (See Section F – Grants Information Data System for more information). Every week, this publication is sent via e-mail to all District agency directors and grants management contacts. This information is provided as a service and is widely distributed so that all agencies are aware of the available grant funds. Each agency may decide which grant prospects best suit its objectives.

E. Citywide Calendar

In April of 2004, a Citywide Calendar was launched on the DC.gov site. This feature allows DC government agencies to post details regarding their public events. In addition, community organizations may add their event listings. The Citywide Calendar reports over 1,200 online visitors on a typical weekday.

During FY05, OPGD posted information regarding its 6th annual Public-Private Partnerships Conference, its Strengthening Partners Initiative (SPI) pre-application conference, as well as other technical assistance sessions it provided to the public. This tool continues to expand OPGD's outreach to the community by reaching a new audience of participants.

F. Grants Information Data System (GIDS)

Since FY03, the OPGD staff has worked with the Office of the Chief Technology Officer to implement an IT Capital Development Plan to enhance OPGD's capacity to capture and disseminate mission-critical grants data. The plan aims to streamline and transform OPGD's outmoded and repetitive manual operating systems by providing a dynamic and integrated Web-based business systems process.

In FY04, Phase One of GIDS began with the development and building of the following mission-critical services:

- A customized and searchable online federal, foundation, and local government grants database, with the competitive federal grant data automatically extracted from Grants.gov site on a daily basis;
- A service for DC agencies to view and report on competitive federal grant applications and awards via the intranet;
- A service for DC agencies to post their subgrant opportunities for inclusion in the online grants database and *Funding Alert*; and
- An online system to accept the District's State Single Point of Contact (SPOC) proposals pursuant to Executive Order 12372, Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs (See Part II, Section D – State Single Point of Contact for more information).

The first phase of GIDS was completed in early FY05. OPGD staff tested and began using it internally to produce the *Funding Alert* and *Federal Grants Bulletin* publications. In January of 2005, representatives of select DC government agencies and nonprofit organizations were trained on GIDS and asked for feedback. Over the next few months, OPGD and the trained DC agencies continued to test the system.

On June 16, 2005, the external grants database and SPOC features of the GIDS went live on the OPGD Web site. In addition to announcing the launch in the NEWS section of the OPGD Web site and in the *Funding Alert*, OPGD made a variety of presentations about the system both internally and externally as presented below in Table 8.

Table 8: Special GIDS Presentations

Audience	Date
Grants.gov Program Manager and Maryland Governor's Grants Office	June 3, 2005
State of Maryland Grants Managers	June 17, 2005
DC Office of Budget and Planning	August 11, 2005
DC Government Grants Managers	August 18, 2005
State of Maryland Chief Information Officer	August 22, 2005

Response to the system has been quite favorable. Some comments after the special presentations and trainings include the following:

> *"The Office of Partnerships and Grants Development has opened the door to grant opportunities for the District of Columbia's citizens with the launch of the Grants Information Data System (GIDS). GIDS expands on the efforts of the federal Grants.gov site by combining information on Federal and District grants. DC has taken a huge, exciting step forward in breaking down barriers to obtaining information on both Federal and District grant opportunities."*
> Rebecca Spitzgo, Program Manager, Grants.gov

> *"The Mayor's Office of Partnerships and Grants Development (OPGD) is leading the way in government grant streamlining efforts. By linking its own Grants Information Data System (GIDS) to the Grants.gov clearinghouse, OPGD provides an online, searchable database of federal, city, and foundation grants that is tailored to its constituents. This will have a positive impact on organizations in the District, and I expect other states will follow OPGD's lead in providing this extraordinary level of constituent service."*
> Eric Brenner, Director, Maryland Governor's Grants Office

> *"It is delightful to see the new system and the level of professionalism that has led to its development."*
> DC Government Agency Representative

The completion of Phase One of OPGD's IT Capital Development Plan – the Grant Information Data System (GIDS) – automated OPGD's grants information tracking system. It also positioned the office as a leader in the national e-Grants initiative by creating a system-to-system interface with Grants.gov, the online clearinghouse of federal grant information, in order to populate GIDS with timely federal grants information.

GIDS now provides the District Government and public with greater access to critical competitive grant opportunities and enables them to better analyze and monitor how these resources are benefiting the residents of the District of Columbia. Phase Two of this project is designed to enhance GIDS, as well as the District's online donation application and database. Phase Three will build a District grants GIS mapping application to the system. The completion of these phases is scheduled for FY06-07 and will be based on the availability of funding.

VII.   Looking Ahead

Over the last five years, the Executive Office of the Mayor has laid the foundation to institute a first class resource development office for District government agencies, as well as faith-based and nonprofit service providers. This support has led to a steady rise in competitive grant awards and private donations, more strategic technical assistance to OPGD customers, thus providing greater access to critical resources for District residents. The Office of Partnerships and Grants Development plans to use this strong foundation to enhance its core services and remains firmly committed to its vision of "Responsive Government Promoting Partnerships for a Better DC."

Looking forward to FY06 and beyond, OPGD will focus on the following goals and objectives:

Grant Development/Management Support

- Provide continued training to District grant managers on OPGD's Grants Information Data System (GIDS);
- Secure funding and related resources to design and construct Phase II of OPGD's IT Capital Development Plan;
- Explore with EOM and OBP officials the potential of providing technical support for the District's Chapter 50 Sub-Grant Rules process;
- Improve OPGD's grantwriting services to District grant managers and conduct at least five grants development/management workshops; and
- Expand OPGD's data analysis and reporting on new competitive federal grant awards.

Donations Authorization Process

- Hire staff to fill the vacant FTE position that is required by the Rules of Conduct Governing Donations;
- Launch an effective marketing strategy that promotes greater charitable giving to District agencies;
- Enhance the District's online donations application process as defined in OPGD's IT Capital Development Plan; and
- Conduct an agency-wide customer satisfaction survey to evaluate the effectiveness of the donation process.

Capacity Building Services

- Integrate more of OPGD's capacity building services with the District's nonprofit subgrantees and EOM special constituency organizations;
- Promote greater awareness and usage of the Grants Information Resource Center (GIRC) by local government, faith-based, and nonprofit grant seekers;
- Extend reach of the GIRC by taking it "on the road" through a possible partnership with Xtreme Mobile, DCPL's new state-of-the-art bookmobile and computer center; and
- Strengthen the District's collaboration with the Foundation Center, Washington Regional Association of Grantmakers, and the Center for Nonprofit Advancement (formerly Washington Council of Agencies).

Multi-Sector Partnership Development

- Identify and connect with more potential multi-sectors partners to advance the District's top policy priorities and strategic interests;
- Post the District government's top partnership opportunities on OPGD's Web site and announce at appropriate events and in related publications;
- Host at least two partnership clearinghouse forums for select government agencies and potential partners; and
- Provide technical assistance, as needed, to fully implement the District's five-year protocol agreement with the City of Tshwane in South Africa.

The Office of Partnerships and Grants Development in the Executive Office of the Mayor is very proud of its past accomplishments and very optimistic about future opportunities for the District. Realization of the above goals and program objectives will advance Mayor Williams' strategic priority of "Expanding Partnerships and Democracy." Fulfillment of these goals will provide our customers greater access to grant and donation support, establish effective and meaningful partnerships based on more than money, and leverage these vital resources to improve the quality of life in the District of Columbia. OPGD looks forward to working with the District government and its many multi-sector partners to build stronger bridges to success in FY06 and beyond.